

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VALLET 01604 061055Z

46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 DODE-00 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /100 W

----- 014943

R 060942Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4615

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 1604

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MILI, MT

SUBJ: OFFICIAL RECRUITMENT FOR PIONEER CORPS

REF: DAO VALLETTA 031249Z AUG 73 (NOTAL) AND 011127Z AUG 73
(NOTAL

1. REFTELS REPORTED THAT AFTER CAREFUL SCREENING OFFICER CANDIDATES FOR PIONEER CORPS BY BOARDS OF SENIOR OFFICERS, THIRTY-FIVE NAMES WERE SUBMITTED TO P.M. MINTOFF FOR APPROVAL. MINTOFF ACCEPTED ONLY FIFTEEN, BUT ADDED TWENTY OR TWENTY-FIVE NAMES. AMONG THOSE REJECTED WERE TWO SANDHURST CANDIDATES WITH PREVIOUS ARMED FORCES EXPERIENCE, ONE OF WHOM WAS CONSIDERED BY BOARD AS THE BEST CANDIDATE.

2. OTHER SOURCES AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY TEND TO CONFIRM ABOVE.

3. COMMENT: IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT MINTOFF IS PACKING PIONEER CORPS OFFICER CADRES WITH MEN HE SELECTED. HE HAS NEVER REALLY TRUSTED ARMED FORCES MALTA OFFICERS WHO ARE IN LARGE PART CONSERVATIVE NATIONALIST PARTY SUPPORTERS AND BRITISH-TRAINED.

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GETZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: hilburpw
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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